

August 20, 1956

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

I have just finished reading your interesting article in the American Scientist and want to thank you for the pleasant hour or so I spent with it. The issue was, in general, a good one and I found Calvin's Origin of Life pitch very neat indeed. I would appreciate receiving a copy of this article as well as your reprints having to do with the general area of transduction, etc. I am attempting to do a fast job of reeducation (and education for that matter, never having had any formal biological training) in the areas of genetics, paleontology, general biology and the like since even a mild exposure to the study of the structure of proteins and to the fascinating variations that occur from species to species and thru the phyla makes one realize that the time has come for the protein chemist to start to think in terms of genetics at the covalent bond level. The lessons to be learned from a study of the evolutionary trends in the structure of specific proteins will certainly be immensely valuable and I can't help feeling that such studies will impose restrictions on the protein biosynthetic mechanisms that will be of help in working out patternization procedures.

I plan to give one of Dave Green's seminars sometime this fall or early spring and I hope I can have the opportunity to talk to you then. I have some very specific questions to ask you about protein structure problems related to your field of endeavor.

~~Sincerely~~ Sincerely,

Chris Anfinsen

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